27th January 1931]

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I know how the information about the number of political prisoners in this province is not already with the Government, considering that the Government of India recently gave out the information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"As a matter of fact, the difficulty is that some of these men are coming into the prisons and others are being released."

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—"Is the hon. the Law Member aware that one political prisoner suffering from dysentery is now being treated in the main hospital in Bellary?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"I am not aware."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"In answer to a supplementary question, the hon. Member said that the Government had no information with regard to the death of a prisoner in the Trichinopoly Jail. May I know whether the Government is so irresponsible with regard to the lives of people who are in jail?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"The Government is fully responsible, Sir, for the lives of the people in jails."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"When courts of law take judicial recognition of certain public opinions, is it not possible for Government to take judicial note of the general medical opinion in favour of giving butter-milk to people suffering from dysentery?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"I do not know how the question of butter-milk comes into this question."

The number of political prisoners who have suffered from dysentery since April 1930.

*60 Q.—Mr. K. Koti Reddi: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the number of political prisoners in the various jails of the Presidency who have suffered and are suffering from dysentery since April 1930?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (a) of Question No. 59.

Rules for the appointment of visitors to jails.

*61 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a rule now that persons wearing khaddar or Gandhi caps may not be appointed as visitors to jails, and if so, the reasons for it; and

(b) whether the relatives and friends of prisoners are not allowed to visit them in the jails, if they wear khadi or 'Gandhi' caps, and if so, the reasons for it?

A.—(a) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The second part does not arise.

(b) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The second part of the question does not arise.